



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/732,996	12/11/2003	Bradley W. Smith	AAI-14284	8301
45483	7590	05/24/2006	EXAMINER	
AUTOLIV ASP, INC			WEBB, TIFFANY LOUISE	
Attn: Sally J. Brown ESQ			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3350 Airport Rd				
OGDEN, UT 84405			3616	

DATE MAILED: 05/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/732,996	SMITH, BRADLEY W.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Tiffany L. Webb	3616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 April 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) 11 and 12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 13-23 and 26-29 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,3,5 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 2,4,7-10,24 and 25 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 11 December 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/11/03</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Species II in the reply filed on 4/25/2006 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 11-12 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected Species I and III, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 4/25/2006.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - On page 16, line 1, the examiner believes reference character "162" should be "182."
 - On page 17, line 5, the examiner believes reference character "30" should be "130."

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

4. The examiner would like to note that claims 24 and 25 are method claims depending from apparatus claims. The examiner suggests combining the limitations of claims 13 and 24 to create a single method claim, and also combine the limitations of claim 13, 17, and 15 to create a single method claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 6 recites the limitation "the sealing gasket" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Parker et al. (US 2002/0162476). Regarding claim 1, Parker et al. discloses having an initiator assembly (100) for an inflator device having at least one inflator device mating lug (not shown in drawings, paragraph [0048]), the initiator assembly includes: an initiator including an initiator cup (112) at least in part defining a storage chamber containing a reactive charge, the initiator also including at least one electrical connector (111 and 111') in reaction initiating communication with the reactive charge; and a molded body fitting (118) over at least a portion of the initiator, the molded body including at least one locking flange (120); wherein the at least one locking flange is adapted to lockingly engage the at least one inflator device mating lug. Regarding claim

3, Parker et al. discloses the molded body including an extension portion (118) including a first locking flange and a second locking flange on an opposite side of the extension portion (see Figure 6) from the first locking flange, and the first locking flange is adapted to lockingly engage a corresponding first inflator device mating lug and the second locking flange is adapted to lockingly engage a corresponding second inflator device mating lug. Regarding claims 5 and 6, Parker et al. discloses having a sealing gasket (101) between the molded body and the inflator device.

9. Claims 1, 3, 5, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Osborne et al. (US 5,496,065). Regarding claim 1, Osborne et al. discloses having an initiator assembly (48) for an inflator device (10) having at least one inflator device mating lug (60 and 62), the initiator assembly includes: an initiator including an initiator cup (see Figure 5, at 48) at least in part defining a storage chamber containing a reactive charge, the initiator also including at least one electrical connector (70 and 68) in reaction initiating communication with the reactive charge; and a molded body fitting (50) over at least a portion of the initiator, the molded body including at least one locking flange (58); wherein the at least one locking flange is adapted to lockingly engage the at least one inflator device mating lug. Regarding claim 3, Obsorne et al. discloses the molded body including an extension portion (50) including a first locking flange and a second locking flange on an opposite side of the extension portion (see Figure 3, 58) from the first locking flange, and the first locking flange is adapted to lockingly engage a corresponding first inflator device mating lug and the second locking flange is adapted to lockingly engage a corresponding second inflator device mating lug. Regarding

claims 5 and 6, Osborne et al. discloses having a sealing gasket (72) between the molded body and the inflator device.

Allowable Subject Matter

10. Claims 2, 4, and 7-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

11. Claims 13-29 are allowed.

12. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art fails to disclose, teach, or suggest having a initiator assembly with an initiator cup, a molded body fitting over part of the initiator and having a locking flange, a plate having an opening and a mating lug on the plate opening, wherein the molded body extends into the plate opening and the locking flange is engaged with the mating lug. The prior art also fails to disclose, teach, or suggest, the molded body being adapted to rotate about an axis for an angle of 90 or 180 degrees in order to engage the locking flange with the mating lug.

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following are all initiators: Headley (5,487,559) and Shirk et al. (US 6,056,314).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tiffany L. Webb whose telephone number is 571-272-2797. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Dickson can be reached on 571-272-6669. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Tiffany L Webb
Examiner
Art Unit 3616

tlw



PAUL N. DICKSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600